

APPENDIX A

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. (Amended) A method of operating an information service to facilitate
2 preparation of intellectual property documents suitable for filing in one or more of plural
3 target jurisdictions, the method comprising:
4 registering for each of plural associates, at least one target jurisdiction and a
5 computer readable encoding of a plurality of form documents
6 corresponding to target jurisdiction and associate specifications~~specific~~
7 ~~form documents therefor~~; and
8 distributing at least a portion of the ~~registered target jurisdiction and associate~~
9 ~~specific~~ form documents to an originating filer for use in preparation of
10 the intellectual property documents suitable for filing by respective ones
11 of the associates.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1,
2 wherein the distribution is responsive to selection by the originating filer of one or
3 more of the target jurisdictions and, for each selected target jurisdictions, a
4 respective one of the associates.
- 1 3. (Amended) The method of claim 1,
2 wherein the distribution includes periodic supply to the originating filer of the
3 computer readable encoding of at least a portion of the ~~target jurisdiction~~
4 ~~and associate specific~~ form documents for each of the plural associates.
- 1 4. (Amended) The method of claim 1,
2 wherein the distribution is encoded by ~~or~~ and/or transmitted in at least one
3 computer readable medium selected from the set of a disk, CD-ROM, tape

or other magnetic, optical, or electronic storage medium and a network,
wireline, wireless or other communications medium.

5. (Amended) An information system for transacting an intellectual property
filing with plural targets therefor, the information system comprising:

a network including an originating node and plural target nodes, the target nodes
corresponding to associates licensed or otherwise authorized to make
intellectual property filings in one or more target jurisdictions; and
an intellectual property filing portal coupled by the network to the originating
node and at least a portion of the target nodes, the intellectual property
filing portal responsive to a selection at the originating node of at least one
target jurisdiction and at least one associate corresponding thereto for the
intellectual property filing, supplying the originating node with
particularized requirements of the selected at least one target jurisdiction
and at least one associate,

the intellectual property filing portal further responsive to receipt via the network
of one or more intellectual property filings prepared in accordance with
the particularized requirements of the selected at least one target
jurisdictions and at least one associates, supplying corresponding ones of
the target nodes with respective portions of the received one or more
intellectual property filings for filing by respective ones of the selected at
least one associates in respective ones of the selected at least one target
jurisdictions.

6. The information system of claim 5,

2 wherein the selection at the originating node includes selection of two or more
3 target jurisdictions.

1 7. (Amended) The information system of claim 5, wherein for ~~a particular~~
2 each selected at least one target jurisdiction and corresponding at least one associate
3 ~~combination~~, the particularized requirements include:

4 formatting requirements for filing of the intellectual property filing in the
5 ~~particular~~ target jurisdiction; and
6 an encoding of at least one filing suitable for filing at ~~paper required by the~~
7 ~~particular~~ target jurisdiction.

1 8. (Amended) The information system of claim 5, wherein for each a
2 ~~particular~~ selected at least one target jurisdiction and corresponding at least one associate
3 ~~combination~~, the particularized requirements include:

4 ~~an enumeration of~~ information characterizing one or more data fields for which
5 values specific to the intellectual property filing are to be supplied from
6 the originating node to allow preparation of documents for filing in the
7 selected at least one target jurisdiction by the selected at least one
8 associate.

1 9. (Amended) The information system of claim 5, wherein for ~~a~~
2 ~~particular~~ each selected at least one target jurisdiction and corresponding at least one
3 ~~associate combination~~, the particularized requirements include:

4 an encoding of at least one paper required by the ~~particular~~ selected at least one
5 associate.

1 10. (Amended) The information system of claim 5,

2 wherein the originating node includes a computer of a managing attorney or
3 intellectual property owner; and
4 wherein at least a portion of the target nodes include a computers of a respective
5 associates configured to electronically receive at least a portion of the
6 intellectual property filing from the originating node ~~managing attorney or~~
7 ~~intellectual property owner~~ via the intellectual property filing portal.

1 11. (Amended) The information system of claim 5,
2 wherein the originating node includes a web browser;
3 wherein in the intellectual property filing portal includes a web server; and
4 wherein the selection of at least one target jurisdiction and at least one associate,
5 the supplying of the particularized requirements, and the ~~receiving receipt~~
6 of the one or more intellectual property filings prepared in accordance
7 with the particularized requirements are achieved, at least in part, using
8 internet protocol traffic between the web browser and the web server.

1 12. (Amended) The information system of claim 5,
2 wherein the intellectual property filing portal is further responsive to registration
3 by one or more of the associates of ~~their~~ particularized requirements for
4 the corresponding at least one target jurisdictions;
5 wherein the supplied particularized requirements include those registered by the
6 selected at least one associates.

1 13. The information system of claim 5,
2 wherein the network includes one or more of a packet switched network
3 segment, a circuit switched network segment, a public network

4 segment, a private network segment, a public switched
5 telecommunications network segment, and a virtual private network.

1 14. The information system of claim 5, wherein the received intellectual
2 property filings include one or more of:

3 a computer readable encoding of a technical document including specification and
4 claims formatted in accordance with the supplied particularized
5 requirements of at least a first of the selected target jurisdictions; and
6 a computer readable encoding of information for completion of a filing paper, request for
7 examination or transmittal in accordance with the supplied particularized requirements of
8 the first selected target jurisdiction and the selected associate therefor.

1 15. (Amended) A method of operating an intellectual property filing portal
2 for servicing intellectual property filing transactions using a network accessible
3 information service, the method comprising:

4 ~~servicing intellectual property filing transactions using a network accessible~~
5 ~~information service;~~

6 responsive to a selection by a user of at least one target jurisdiction and at least
7 one associate corresponding thereto, supplying the user, from the
8 information service via the network, with a computer readable encoding of
9 one or more form documents, wherein the form documents are specific to
10 the at least one target jurisdiction and at least one associate; and
11 receiving from the user, at the information service via the network, ~~at least a~~
12 ~~portion of a set of filing~~ one or more documents suitable for filing and in
13 accordance with the one or more form documents, and forwarding same to

14 the selected at least one associate for filing in the selected at least one
15 target jurisdiction.

1 16. (Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising:
2 registering one or more associates for the making of intellectual property filings in
3 respective one or more target jurisdictions, the registering including
4 updating a data store with computer readable encodings of one or more
5 form documents ~~particular~~ specific to at least one ~~an~~ associate and the
6 respective at least one ~~one or more~~ target jurisdictions.

1 17. (Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising:
2 ~~quoting~~ providing one or more quoted fees associated with both the at least one
3 target jurisdiction and the at least one associate, wherein the supplying of
4 the computer readable encoding of one or more form documents is
5 contingent upon authorization by the user of the quoted fees.

1 18. (Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising:
2 ~~quoting~~ providing one or more quoted fees associated with both the at least one
3 target jurisdiction and the at least one associate substantially coincident
4 with the selection; and
5 transacting the quoted fees substantially coincident with the one or more of the
6 selection, the receiving of ~~filing~~ one or more documents and the filing in
7 the selected target jurisdiction.

1 19. The method of claim 18,

2 wherein the transacting includes one or more of debiting a deposit account,
3 executing a wire transfer, and electronically authorizing payment of the
4 quoted fees using a credit card, debit card or other payment system.

1 20. Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising:
2 responsive to the selection by the user of the at least one target jurisdiction and
3 the at least one associate corresponding thereto, retrieving a computer
4 readable encoding of target jurisdiction filing requirements for technical
5 documents; and
6 preparing one or more technical documents of the ~~set of filing~~ one or more
7 documents suitable for filing in accordance with the target jurisdiction
8 filing requirements for technical documents.

9
1 21. (Amended) The method of claim 20, further comprising:
2 supplying the user, via the network, with the computer readable encoding of target
3 jurisdiction filing requirements for technical documents; and
4 performing the ~~technical documents~~ preparing at the user's site using the computer
5 readable encoding of target jurisdiction filing requirements; and
6 receiving ~~from~~ from the user, via the network, the prepared one or more technical
7 documents for forwarding to the selected at least one associate.

1 22. (Amended) A computer implemented method of operating a one-stop
2 intellectual property filing service, the method comprising:

3 ~~servicing selections of~~ receiving at a computer, a transmission from a user, having
4 at least one selection two or more target jurisdictions and corresponding
5 one or more associates for an intellectual property filing;
6 in response to the at least one selections, supplying a transmission from the
7 computer to the user, of one or more target jurisdiction and associate
8 specific documents for completion;
9 receiving, at the computer, the completed one or more target jurisdiction and
10 associate-specific documents ~~and technical documents~~; and
11 forwarding, ~~the technical documents, together with~~ from the computer, respective
12 ones of the target jurisdiction and associate-specific documents, to each of
13 the selected one or more associates for filing in respective of the selected
14 two or more target jurisdictions.

1 23. (Amended) The method of claim 22, further comprising:
2 ~~quoting~~ providing one or more quoted fees associated with the selected two or
3 more target jurisdictions and corresponding one or more associates,
4 wherein the supplying of one or more target jurisdiction and associate-
5 specific documents for completion is contingent upon authorization by the
6 user of the one or more quoted fees.

1 24. (Amended) The ~~computer implemented~~ method of claim 22, further
2 comprising:
3 populating the one or more target jurisdiction and associate-specific documents
4 with matter specific information.

1 25. (Amended) A computer implemented method for initiating filing of one
2 or more intellectual property related documents, said method comprising:
3 selecting one or more target jurisdictions from amongst a set of supported
4 jurisdictions; and
5 ~~for~~ responsive to each selected target jurisdiction,
6 obtaining a computer readable encoding of one or more form documents, wherein
7 the one or more form documents are specific to the target jurisdiction and
8 to a respective associate therefor; and
9 supplying at least a portion of a set of filing documents in accordance with the
10 one or more form documents, for transfer to the respective associate
11 suitable for filing in the selected one or more target jurisdiction.

1 26. The computer implemented method of claim 25, further comprising for
2 each selected target jurisdiction:
3 completing the one or more form documents in accordance with matter specific
4 information retrieved from a data store.

1 27. The computer implemented method of claim 25, further comprising:
2 selecting the respective associate from amongst a set of supported associates.

1 28. The computer implemented method of claim 25,
2 Wherein the obtaining is from an intellectual property filing portal; and
3 wherein the supplying for transfer includes supplying a computer readable
4 encoding to the intellectual property filing portal for forwarding to the
5 respective associate.

1 29. The computer implemented method of claim 25, wherein the obtaining is

2 from an intellectual property filing portal.

1 30. The computer implemented method of claim 25,
2 wherein the supplying for transfer includes forwarding a computer readable
3 encoding to the respective associate.

1 31. (Amended) The computer implemented method of claim 25,
2 wherein the obtaining and the supplying are via a network; and
3 wherein the supplied portion of the set of filing documents includes at least a
4 computer readable encoding of one or more technical documents.

1 32. (Amended) The computer implemented method of claim 25,
2 wherein the supplied portion of the set of filing documents includes one or more
3 technical documents and completed ones of the one or more form
4 documents.

1 33. (Amended) A computer implemented method for initiating filing of one
2 or more intellectual property related documents, said method comprising:
3 selecting one or more target jurisdictions from amongst a set of supported
4 jurisdictions;
5 for at least one selected target jurisdiction, selecting from amongst one or more
6 attorneys or agents available therefor; and
7 for each selected target jurisdiction,
8 transforming a computer readable encoding of intellectual property application
9 data to a format appropriate for filing and consistent with requirements of
10 the selected target jurisdiction, the transforming being in accordance with

11 a computer readable encoding of filing requirements for the selected target
12 jurisdiction; and
13 electronically transmitting the transformed computer readable encoding to an
14 attorney or agent for filing in the selected target jurisdiction.

1 34. The method of claim 33,
2 wherein the transforming is further in accordance with a computer readable
3 encoding of the selected attorney or agent's requirements.

1 35. The method of claim 33,
2 wherein the intellectual property application data includes contents of a priority
3 application.

1 36. The method of claim 33,
2 wherein the intellectual property application data includes data retrieved from a
3 docket system.

1 37. The method of claim 33,
2 wherein the electronically transmitting is via an information service intermediary;
3 and
4 further comprising receiving from the information service intermediary at least
5 the computer readable encoding of filing requirements for the selected one
6 or more target jurisdictions.

1 38. The method of claim 33,
2 wherein the electronically transmitting is via an information service intermediary;
3 and
4 wherein the transforming is performed by the information service intermediary.

1 39. The method of claim 33,
2 wherein the one or more intellectual property related documents include at least
3 one of an intellectual property application, an amendment, a transmittal
4 paper, an appointment of agent, and a legalization paper.

1 40. The method of claim 33, further comprising:
2 representing the intellectual property application data in a target-neutral format
3 prior to the transforming thereof.

1 41. (Amended) A computer implemented method of preparing one or more
2 intellectual property filings, said method comprising:
3 receiving, at a target computer, a selection of one or more target jurisdictions
4 from an originating computer system;
5 responsive to the receipt of the selection, supplying, from the target computer to
6 the originating computer system, ~~with a~~
7 computer readable encoding of filing requirements for the selected one or more
8 target jurisdictions; and
9 receiving, at the target computer, in computer readable form, at least one
10 document suitable for filing in respective ones of the selected one or more
11 target jurisdictions and prepared at the originating computer system in
12 accordance with the computer readable encoding of filing requirements.

1 42. (Amended) The computer implemented method of claim 41, further
2 comprising:
3 for each target jurisdiction selection, ~~also receiving a selection of~~ at least one
4 attorney ~~or~~ and/or agent corresponding thereto,

5 wherein the computer readable encoding of filing requirements includes attorney-
6 ~~or and/or~~ agent- specific requirements for at least the selected at least one
7 attorney and/or agent.

1 43. (Amended) The computer implemented method of claim 41, further
2 comprising:

3 transmitting, for at least one of the selected one or more target jurisdictions, a
4 computer
5 readable encoding of a technical document for filing in the ~~at least selected~~ one or
6 more selected target jurisdictions.

1 44. (Amended) An information system for preparing intellectual property
2 filings for at least one target in accordance with requirements therefor, the information
3 system comprising:

4 a selection facility by which a user thereof selects the at least one target;
5 a retrieval interface to intellectual property application data stored;
6 a retrieval interface to ~~target~~-requirement data corresponding to the target;
7 a filing preparation facility responsive to the selection facility to
8 transform the intellectual property application data into a target specific
9 intellectual property application filing format suitable for filing in
10 accordance with the target requirement data; and
11 prepare at least one additional document in accordance with the intellectual
12 property application and suitable for filing in accordance with target
13 requirement data
14 for each target selected by the user.

1 45. The information system of claim 44, further comprising:
2 a communications interface for transmitting the transformed intellectual property
3 application data and the at least one additional document for filing.

1 46. The information system of claim 44, further comprising:
2 a data store, responsive to the retrieval interface, for storing the intellectual
3 property application data.

1 47. (Amended) The information system of claim 44,
2 wherein the target includes a target jurisdiction ~~or~~ and/or convention; and
3 wherein the target requirement data includes filing requirements for the target
4 jurisdiction ~~or~~ and/or convention.

1 48. (Amended) The information system of claim 47,
2 wherein the target further includes an attorney ~~or~~ and/or agent; and
3 wherein the target requirement data further includes attorney- ~~or~~ and/or agent-
4 specific requirements.

1 49. (Amended) The information system of claim 44,
2 wherein the intellectual property application data includes a priority
3 application data content corresponding to a previously filed intellectual property
4 application.

1 50. The information system of claim 44,
2 wherein the target-specific intellectual property application filing format is an
3 electronic format for transmission to the target.

1 51. (Amended) The information system of claim 44,
2 embodied as a client application executable on a originating computer and

3 implementing:
4 the selection facility,
5 the retrieval interface to intellectual property application data,
6 the retrieval interface to ~~target~~-requirement data; and
7 the ~~translation~~-filing preparation facility
8 and including a communications interface to a server application; and wherein at
9 least the ~~target~~-requirement data is hosted by the server application.

1 52. A computer program product encoded in a computer readable medium,
2 the computer program product comprising:
3 selection code executable to select one or more target jurisdictions and respective
4 associates from amongst a set of target jurisdictions and associates
5 therefor;
6 retrieval code executable to retrieve, in accordance with the selection, a computer
7 readable encoding of target jurisdiction- and associate specific filing
8 requirements;
9 document preparation code executable to prepare one or more target jurisdiction-
10 and associate-specific documents in accordance with the retrieved
11 requirements; and
12 filing initiation code executable to transmit the prepared documents for filing by
13 the selected one or more associates in the selected one or more target
14 jurisdictions.

1 53. The computer program product of claim 52,

2 wherein the selection code, the retrieval code, the document preparation code and
3 filing initiation code are all executable on a same processor.

1 54. A method of making a computer readable encoding of one or more target

2 jurisdiction- and associate-specific form documents, the method comprising:

3 maintaining a data store of target jurisdiction- and associate-specific form

4 documents for transacting an intellectual property filing in the target

5 jurisdictions using respective of the associates;

6 encoding, based on contents of the data store, an enumeration, for transmission to

7 a computer, of at least a subset of the target jurisdictions and

8 respective of the associates therefor;

9 receiving a selection of one or more of the target jurisdictions and respective

10 associates;

11 retrieving, based on the selection, corresponding of the target jurisdiction- and

12 associate-specific form documents; and

13 encoding as a response to the selection for transmission to the computer, the

14 retrieved target jurisdiction- and associate-specific form documents.

1 55. The method of claim 54, further comprising:

2 registering individual one or ones of the associates for fulfillment of intellectual

3 property filings in respective of the target jurisdictions.

1 56. An intellectual property filing preparation system comprising:

2 means for selecting one or more target jurisdictions and respective associates;

3 means for obtaining form documents specific to each selected target jurisdiction

4 and associate;

5 means for completing the obtained form documents in accordance with matter
6 specific data; and
7 means for transmitting a technical document and respective of the completed form
8 documents for filing by the selected associates.

1 57. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein, the one or more target
2 jurisdiction and associate-specific documents include one or more technical documents.